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The decline in the severity of the smallpox as shown by this return is, probably, more apparent than real, on account of the absence of the statistics of the great city of Osaka, where the disease is now exceedingly prevalent.

As regards the few cases of plague reported from Formosa, I would state that the Japanese newspapers speak of the outbreak of a very severe and fatal epidemic in a remote district of that island, which is generally supposed to be plague, but which is, evidently, not included in the statistics of the Government.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
 STUART ELDRIDGE, M. D.,
Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

[Inclosure.]

Report of smallpox and plague in Japan, March 24 to March 31, 1897.

Locality.	Smallpox.		Locality.	Smallpox.	
	Cases.	Deaths.		Cases.	Deaths.
Kioto Fu.....	54	24	Nagano Ken.....	14	1
Osaka Fu.....	.....	.....	Nagasaki Ken.....	199	48
Tokyo Fu.....	109	.....	Nara Ken.....	.....	.....
Aichi Ken.....	46	4	Niigata Ken.....	62	16
Akita Ken.....	1	.....	Oita Ken.....	29	5
Awomori Ken.....	.....	.....	Okayama Ken.....	27	9
Chiba Ken.....	.....	.....	Okinawa Ken.....	52	32
Fukui Ken.....	28	2	Saga Ken.....	1	1
Fukuoka Ken.....	408	155	Saitama Ken.....	218	77
Fukushima Ken.....	93	14	Shidzuoka Ken.....	129	36
Gifu Ken.....	5	1	Shiga Ken.....	16	4
Gumma Ken.....	60	6	Shimane Ken.....	6	1
Hioyo Ken.....	137	31	Tochigi Ken.....	86	23
Hiroshima Ken.....	63	18	Tokushima Ken.....	351	96
Ibaraki Ken.....	.....	.....	Tottori Ken.....	17	3
Ishikawa Ken.....	19	3	Toyama Ken.....	13	5
Iwate Ken.....	7	1	Wakayama Ken.....	.....	.....
Kagawa Ken.....	.....	.....	Yamagata Ken.....	12	2
Kagoshima Ken.....	70	24	Yamaguchi Ken.....	46	16
Kanagawa Ken (Yokohama)...	43	23	Yamanashi Ken.....	23	2
Kochi Ken.....	34	10	Yehime Ken.....	58	11
Kumamoto Ken.....	6	1	The Hokkaido.....	13	6
Miyagi Ken.....	95	31	Taiwan (Formosa)*.....	68	.....
Miyazaki Ken.....	18	5			
Miye Ken.....	121	29	Totals.....	2, 857	776

* Three cases plague, but no report as to deaths.

STUART ELDRIDGE, M. D.
Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

TURKEY.

Sanitary report from Constantinople.

[Report No. 173.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 8, 1897.

Official news reached from Russia states that the man who fell ill in Theodosia, and whose illness has been considered a bubonic-plague case, is improving, and that guinea pigs on which inoculations have been performed have not presented any plague symptoms.

In Bombay, according to official reports communicated to the International Sanitary Commission, the epidemic is abating. In Karachi there occur about 29 deaths from plague every day.

The physicians who have been forwarded to the Persian Gulf in order

to take the necessary steps to prevent the spread of the epidemic in Turkey, will inspect, also, the two islands in the Persian Gulf, viz, Urmuz and Kishm, where, according to the decisions of the Venice conference, a lazaretto has to be established.

Except the first death from plague which has occurred in the lazaretto of Bassorah, no other case of this disease has been observed there in spite of the continuous arrival of fresh passengers who every day arrive there from Bombay and other ports of the Persian Gulf.

In Constantinople public health seems to be improving.

According to the official report of the bureau de statistique of this town from the 29th of last March up to the 5th instant, 256 deaths have been registered. Among these deaths 8 were from typhoid fever, 3 from smallpox, 3 from diphtheria, and 2 from scarlet fever.

I have the honor to forward to the Department the tableau statistique of the deaths occurred during the last three months of November, December, and January. *

SPIRIDION C. ZAVITZIANO.

STATISTICAL REPORTS.

BAHAMAS—*Dunmore Town*.—Two weeks ended April 9, 1897. Population, 1,472. No deaths.

GREAT BRITAIN—*England and Wales*.—The deaths registered in 33 great towns of England and Wales during the week ended April 10, 1897, correspond to an annual rate of 18.6 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 10,992,524. The highest rate was recorded in Salford, viz, 27.1, and the lowest in Brighton, viz, 11.2 a thousand.

London.—One thousand five hundred and one deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 15; scarlet fever, 12; diphtheria, 23; whooping cough, 54; enteric fever, 10, and diarrhea and dysentery, 14. The deaths from all causes correspond to an annual rate of 17.5 a thousand. In greater London 1,922 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 15.9 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included 14 from diphtheria, 3 from measles, 14 from whooping cough, and 3 from scarlet fever.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the week ended April 10, 1897, in the 23 principal town districts of Ireland was 29.5 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Ballymena, viz, 5.6, and the highest in Dublin, viz, 35.3 a thousand. In Dublin and suburbs 241 deaths were registered, including diphtheria, 2; scarlet fever, 3; measles, 25; whooping cough, 9; and 1 from typhus fever.

Scotland.—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended April 10, 1897, correspond to the annual rate of 24.6 a thousand of the population, which is estimated at 1,549,907. The lowest mortality was recorded in Greenock, viz, 19.5, and the highest in Edinburgh, viz, 26.7.

FRANCE—*Roubaix*.—Month of March, 1897. Estimated population,

* See statistical reports.